



TBC's Frontline Missionaries – Health Care

I am Helen Harrison, and one of my 'frontlines' is as a community-based carer for elderly and vulnerable adults.

I've had this role since the first lockdown in 2020, and I love it! As care-workers, we provide support for elderly and vulnerable adults who live at home but need extra input. Some live with family members, others live alone, and we might be their only visitor that day. We help with feeding, personal care, medications, and being a friendly and supportive presence. Mostly we work alone as single carers although sometimes we work as doubles.

I try to show my faith by caring for each client as a loved child of God. I hold in my head 'What would Jesus do or say' when I enter a home and finish my visit with a 'God bless' goodbye. Along the way I've had many client-initiated, faith-related conversations.



**Prayer points would be:**

- For the care-workers –for compassion as they care for their clients, for wisdom when making important decisions on how to deal with all situations, and for safety on the roads as they drive between clients.
- For the clients and their families – for grace and tolerance towards the care-workers who are doing their best within a very under-funded and under-resourced care system.

## TBC Mission Projects

Alpha is a relaxed introduction to the Christian faith, particularly for those with little or no church background.

Based around videos, a meal and the opportunity to discuss together without any compulsion or pressure, no question is off limits, and most people find they quickly enjoy meeting together.

Discussion explores topics like:

'Why did Jesus die?'

'How can I have faith?'

'How does God guide us?'

And 'Why and How do I pray?' To see how they affect how we live.

We will be looking to start an Alpha course in March, so if you've never been or have someone you'd like to bring, we'd love to have you.

### **Please pray:**

- Giving thanks for those who are on the course as they experience their walk with Jesus.
- For the next steps for the guests at the end of the course.
- For the next course and who you could invite to join it and maybe come yourself!

## Local/UK Partners

Oasis house is a TBC mission initiative which provides a home for men who have experienced some form of homelessness. We currently house five men. The project aim is to create a community family space where men from all walks of life can find healing and restoration, this is facilitated through personal support plans and one-to-one mentoring. We hold a number of meetings throughout the week, Monday evening house meeting, which includes communion and Thursday Friendship Meal which is also open to the wider community. We have also just started the bible course on Wednesday nights which generates some very interesting questions concerning the meaning life and God.

### **Please pray:**

- For the men in the house to find peace and feel at home
- For our evening meetings to be times of encouragement and healing for the guys
- Deeper connections which other agencies to support the project
- For God to send the right people with the right giftings
- More men to join our committed group of volunteers

My name is Carol Connolly. After several mission trips with TBC to Romania, I felt moved by the plight of the Roma, poor and disadvantaged of Eastern Europe.

After receiving healing physically, spiritually, and emotionally through times away with the Lord and using the creative arts, my heart was drawn to make such a space for others to be free to meet with God in a deeper and more meaningful way.

From intimacy through mercy into action!

Settling in a small village near Dobrich in NE Bulgaria. Whilst building 'the ark', (a creative arts retreat and centre for mission outreach), I have been involved with the Roma communities, homeless shelter, refugees and others in need.

Providing shelter, clothing, finance for medicine and surgeries, Christmas gift boxes, away days, weekend retreats, conference and study days.

#### **Prayer needs.**

- 'The Ark' needs funds for completion. To that end my house in Bulgaria is on the market.
- Need for others to come alongside to help run and complete the vision.
- Wisdom re time in UK supporting my elderly mother.

We thank God so much for those He has bought to us at TBC.

#### **Please pray:**

- For the members of our family ministry teams in Family Café, Two by Two, The Well Course & Mums Bible Study, for their health and their ongoing spiritual growth as they minister. Pray that we will grow even more in tune with what we see our Father doing and do as He leads.
- We praise God for the relationships built, hearts shared and opportunities given during 'The Well Course' that has just finished for women looking at wellbeing. Everyone who has completed this first course has signed up to join the second course which looks specifically at who God says we are. Please pray that these women would realise God's love for them and want to start a relationship with Him. Please also pray for the provision of childcare for the children that come along so that we can focus on the course rather than caring for the children.
- For the ongoing opportunities and blessings that we see in Two by Two and Family Cafe, both are growing and welcoming both new as well as our regular families. We praise God particularly for the opportunities to pray into the lives of those who come as well as to see friendships blossom for those that started coming alone. We have had a large influx of babies recently which is lovely! I am so grateful to God and His church for the opportunities we have to love and share His love with so many in our community.

## Healing & Comfort

### Please pray for:

- All those affected by the war in Ukraine
- All those known to us who are unwell with Covid
- All those families who have arrived here from the Ukraine as well as the hosts who will support them
- Cher, now at home on dialysis
- Graham Ogborne
- David Phipps
- Caroline Finney
- Ruth Collett
- Wendy Titterton
- Gloria Hammond
- Heather Woodward
- Micky and Roger Flight
- For the second Well Course that starts this Thursday, that those who have signed up to take part, please pray that God will meet with them, and reveal His love for them as we consider who God is and who He made us to be.
- For Helen Harrison over the next 8 weeks in Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and Ethiopia to do a range of training workshops, project visits and PhD research. Pray for travel mercies, health and stamina, and to be a good ambassador for Christ in all she does and says, throughout the trip and to be alert for God's nudgings and whisperings and to have a willingness to respond in the best way.

*Please note that this prayer list, and any other prayer needs mentioned in Connect are for sharing within this church fellowship. Details of the people mentioned must not be circulated or republished on social media.*

If you are concerned about someone who needs care or support, contact Paul Ferguson -

[paul@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk](mailto:paul@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk)



## World Events

### Please pray for:

- The ongoing conflict between Ukraine and Russia.
- Those families and individuals struggling with the cost-of-living crisis.

## Renewal

To put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

– Ephesians 4:22-24

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - his good, pleasing and perfect will.

– Romans 12:2

**Allow God's grace to fill your life this season as we celebrate what He gave us and what He provides us with daily. May this time with friends and family renew your souls and build stronger relationships in Christ.**